

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Every October, the Department of Energy joins the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and others across the country in support of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month and the “Stop. Think. Connect.” campaign. This year marks the tenth year of the cybersecurity awareness campaign.

No citizen, community, or country is immune to cyber risk, but there are steps you can take in your personal and work life to minimize your chances of an incident:

- Set strong passwords, change them regularly, and don’t share them with anyone.
- Keep your operating system, browser, and other critical software optimized by installing updates ... on your computer, your tablet and your smartphone.
- Maintain an open dialogue with your friends, family, and colleagues about Internet safety.
- Use privacy settings and limit the amount of personal information you post online.
- Be cautious about offers online – if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- Login directly and conduct inquiries on the company’s website, not through an email link. If you are still uncomfortable, call the company’s customer care line. Remember, reputable companies don’t ask you for personal information or your user name and password in unsolicited email.

You have the opportunity to join in cybersecurity awareness efforts across the country. Here at the Department of Energy, you can visit <http://energy.gov/cio>. If you, your family, or your organization is interested in more information about cybersecurity and the “Stop. Think. Connect.” campaign, please visit www.dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect.

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